

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Amended) A computer program product for backing up a program and a plurality of user instances of said program, said program product comprising:

a computer readable medium;

first program instructions to backup definitions of queues used by said plurality of user instances of said program;

second program instructions to backup authorizations for said queues;

third program instructions to backup a plurality of program-instance configuration files for said plurality of user instances of said program, respectively; and

fourth program instructions to backup a configuration file for said program; and

wherein said first, second, third and fourth program instructions are recorded on said medium in functional form.

2. (Original) A program product as set forth in claim 1 wherein said queues are message queues.

3. (Previously Amended) A program product as set forth in claim 1 further comprising fifth program instructions to backup user exits for said program and said plurality of user instances of said program; and wherein said fifth program instructions are recorded on said medium in functional form.

4. (Original) A program product as set forth in claim 1 wherein said first, second, third and fourth program instructions are executed as a continuous program flow such that said backups are substantially consistent with each other.

5. (Previously Amended) A program product as set forth in claim 1 wherein said first program instructions request said definitions of said queues from one of said user instances of said program, and said second program instructions request said authorizations from said one user instance of said program.

6. (Original) A program product as set forth in claim 1 wherein said program is a middleware program.

7. (Previously Amended) A computer system for backing up a program and a plurality of user instances of said program, said system comprising:

means for backing up definitions of queues used by said plurality of user instances of said program;

means for backing up authorizations for said queues;

means for backing up a plurality of program-instance configuration files for said plurality of program instances, respectively; and

means for backing up a configuration file for said program.

8. (Original) A system as set forth in claim 7 wherein said queues are message queues.

9. (Previously Amended) A system as set forth in claim 7 further comprising means for backing up user exits for said program and said plurality of user instances of said program.

10. (Original) A system as set forth in claim 7 wherein all of said means are initiated at nearly a same time such that the respective backups are substantially consistent with each other.

11. (Previously Amended) A system as set forth in claim 7 wherein the queue definition backup means request said definitions of said queues from one of said user instances of said program, and the queue authorization backup means request said authorizations from said one user instance of said program.

12. (Original) A system as set forth in claim 7 wherein said program is a middleware program

13. (Previously Amended) A method for backing up a user instance of a program which instance has locked a queue definition file containing definitions of queues and authorizations for accessing the queues, and which has not locked a configuration file identifying said instance, said method comprising the steps of:

a backup program querying said instance for the definitions of said queues and the authorizations for said queues such that said instance retains the lock on said queue definition file, and in response, said user program reading said definitions and authorizations from said queue definition file and furnishing them to said backup program; and

said backup program directly reading said configuration file without querying said user program for said configuration file and without locking said configuration file.

14. (Original) A method as set forth in claim 13 wherein said configuration file specifies a name and location of said user program instance.